

24 May 88

(phng 3:30)  
FRI afternoon

Vd/NIC: 3:30 phng  
~~2:15 on~~  
other

Bob Blackwell asks if you want to meet with  
him, SP, and GPF on the attached?

Can't do  
earlier

↑ phng 3:30

↑ 3:30

Barb

YES: set up short (20 min)  
meeting anytime next  
2-3 days. I talked to DCI  
about this.

*[Signature]*

Date

~~SECRET~~ [redacted] (file) 25X1

23 May 1988

NOTE FOR: VC/NIC, NIOs/USSR, SP, GPF

FROM: C/NIC

SUBJECT: Proposed NIE on Soviet Arms Control Objectives

You will have received the attached memo from D/DIA to the DCI proposing an NIE on Soviet arms control objectives. From what I know about the origins of this proposal, I believe the audience and purposes of such an NIE are not as clear as they might be. Moreover, to the extent the principal intended audience needs basic education and/or imaginative intelligence input to an ongoing policy process, an NIE may not be the best way to supply these. And further, the proposed subject matter -- namely, how the Soviets use arms control to advance their interests in a strategic competition against us, as opposed to reconciling their interests with ours -- could be expected to excite some really lively controversies.

For all these reasons, I want to be very careful and thoughtful about signing up to the project and, at the least, to do some recce around the policy community, particularly in OSD, to identify the real need. Whether or not we commit to an NIE on this subject, we shall have to address Soviet arms control objectives as they relate to NIEs [redacted] 25X1  
Please send me your thoughts on this by COB 25 May so we can draft a proposed response for Judge Webster.

15/  
Fritz W. Ermarth

Attachment: As Stated

~~SECRET~~ [redacted] 25X1